

ABSTRACT

An inside-realm node (A) attempting ~~that wants~~ to connect to an outside-realm node (B) through an intermediate gateway (30) requests central configuration from a gateway resource manager (40). In response to the configuration request initiated from the inside-realm node, an outside-realm gateway address and an inside node port number are centrally allocated to the inside-realm node by resource allocation logic (42). Establishment of the connection is initiated at least partly based on the allocated address and port number by means of appropriate signaling with the gateway (30). The allocated address and port number are signaled back to the requesting inside-realm node in a configuration reply, allowing inside-realm node to configure its communication interface accordingly. The central allocation of socket parameters for the inside-realm node is preferably performed based on predetermined connection information, which is included in or derivable, for example by means of the name-to address translator (50), from the initial configuration request.